

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

NEUMAN et al.

Atty. Ref.: 3691-641; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. To be Assigned

TC/A.U.

Filed: February 13, 2004

Examiner:

For: HEAT TREATABLE COATED ARTICLES WITH METAL NITRIDE LAYER  
AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME

\* \* \* \* \*

February 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for  
examination, please amend the application as follows: